Integration of a large-scale General Investigation ecosystem restoration project within a regional planning framework

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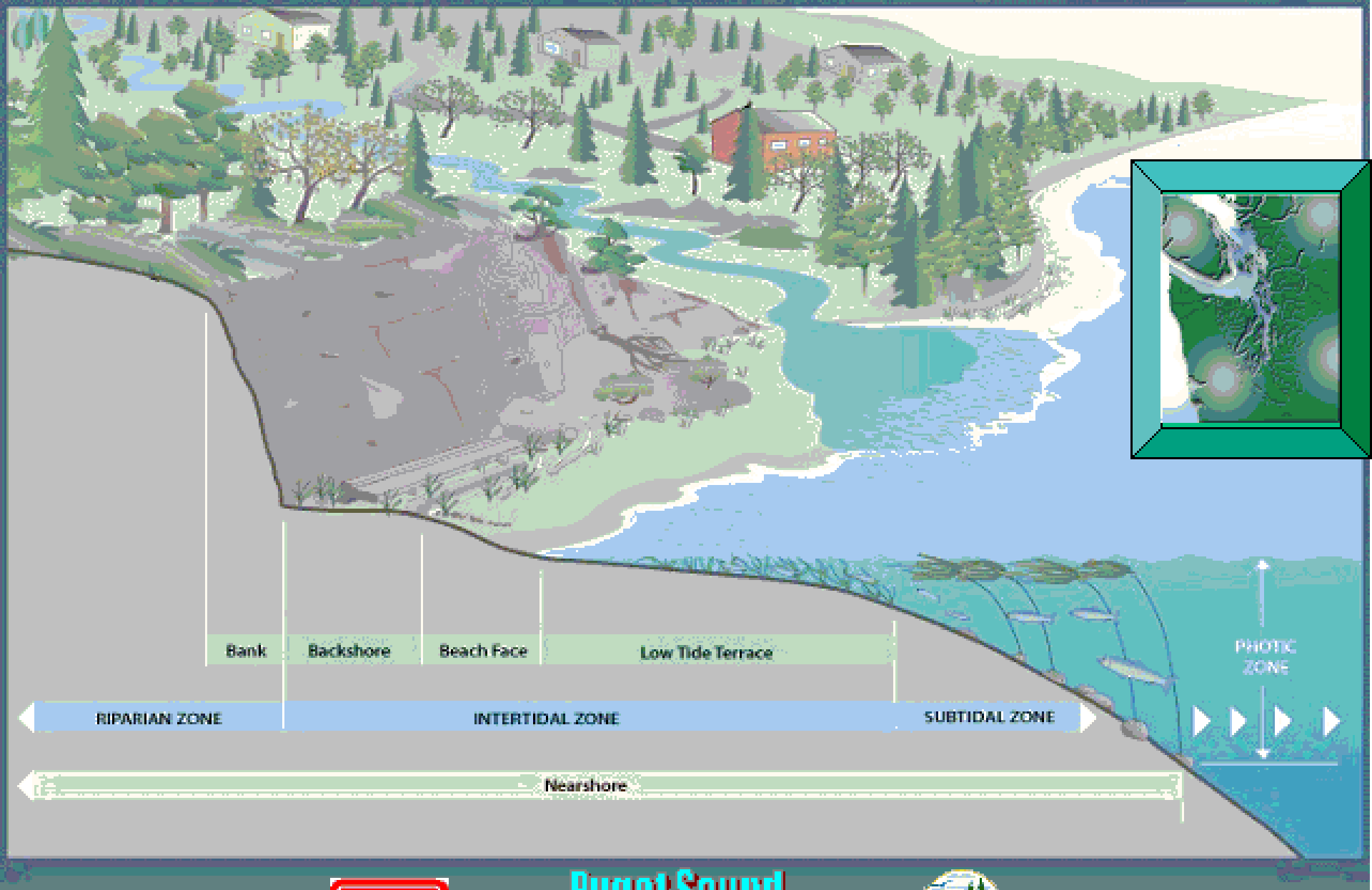
PUGET SOUND NEARSHORE PARTNERSHIP

RESTORING OUR ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

Topics of Presentation

- Project Location and Background
- PSNER Organization and Approach
- Overview and Examples of Regional Integration
- Lessons Learned

CANADA
Bellingham
North Cascades
Nat'l. Pk.
CASCADE RANGE
Columbia
IDAHO
Port Angeles
Cape
Flattery
Lake
Chelan
Everett
Puget Sound
Seattle
Bellevue
Grand
Coulee
Dam
Spokane
Spokane
Olympic
Nat'l. Pk.
Tacoma
WASHINGTON
OLYMPIA
Mt. Rainier
Mt. Rainier
Nat'l. Pk.
Pullman
Yakima
Snake
Yakima
Longview
Mt. St.
Helens
CASCADE RANGE
Kennewick
Walla Walla
Columbia
North
Pacific
Ocean
Vancouver
OREGON

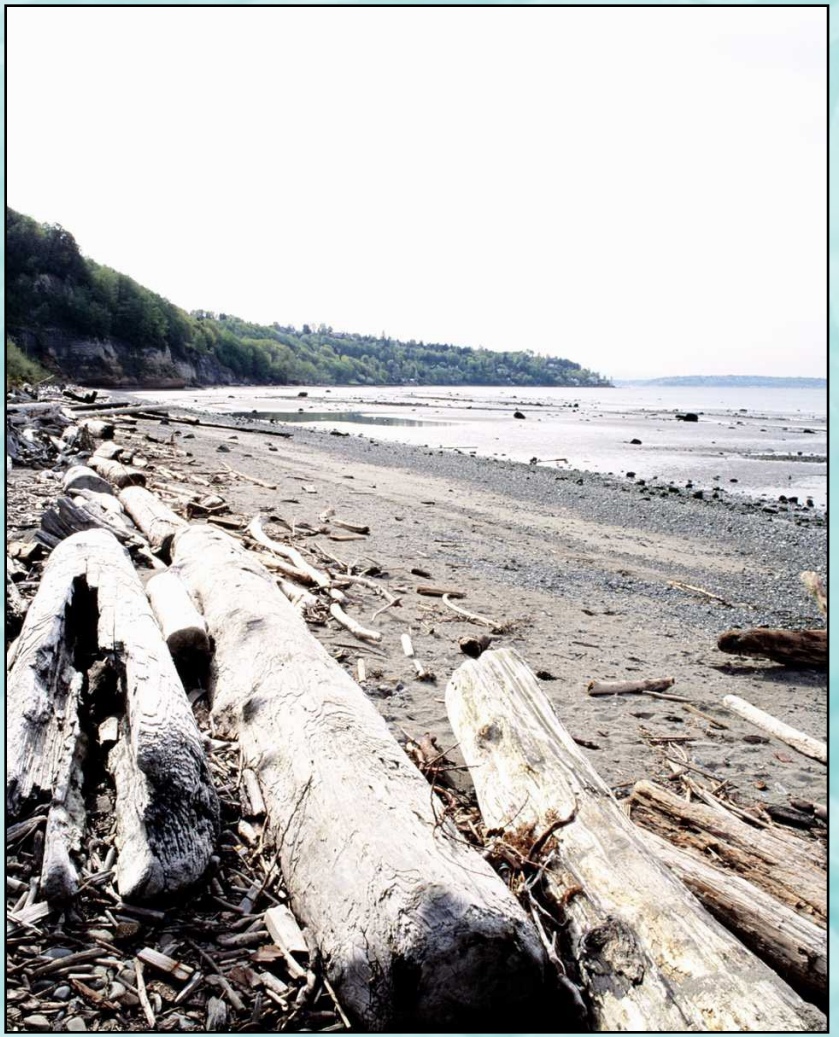


Puget Sound Nearshore Project

Graphic courtesy of King County

Mission

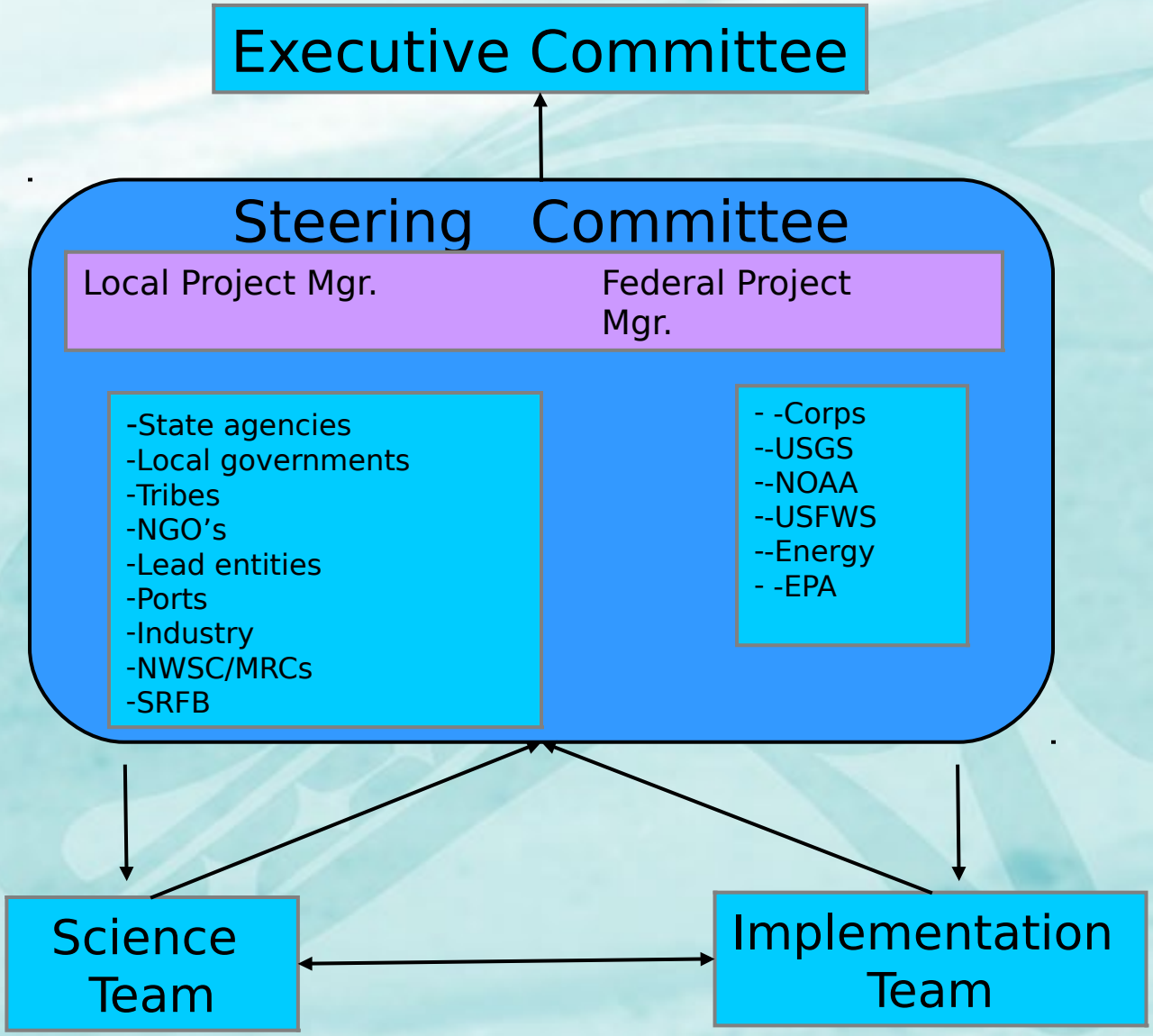
Protect and restore the functions and natural processes of Puget Sound nearshore ecosystems in support of the natural resources and beneficial uses of Puget Sound and the Puget Sound basin.



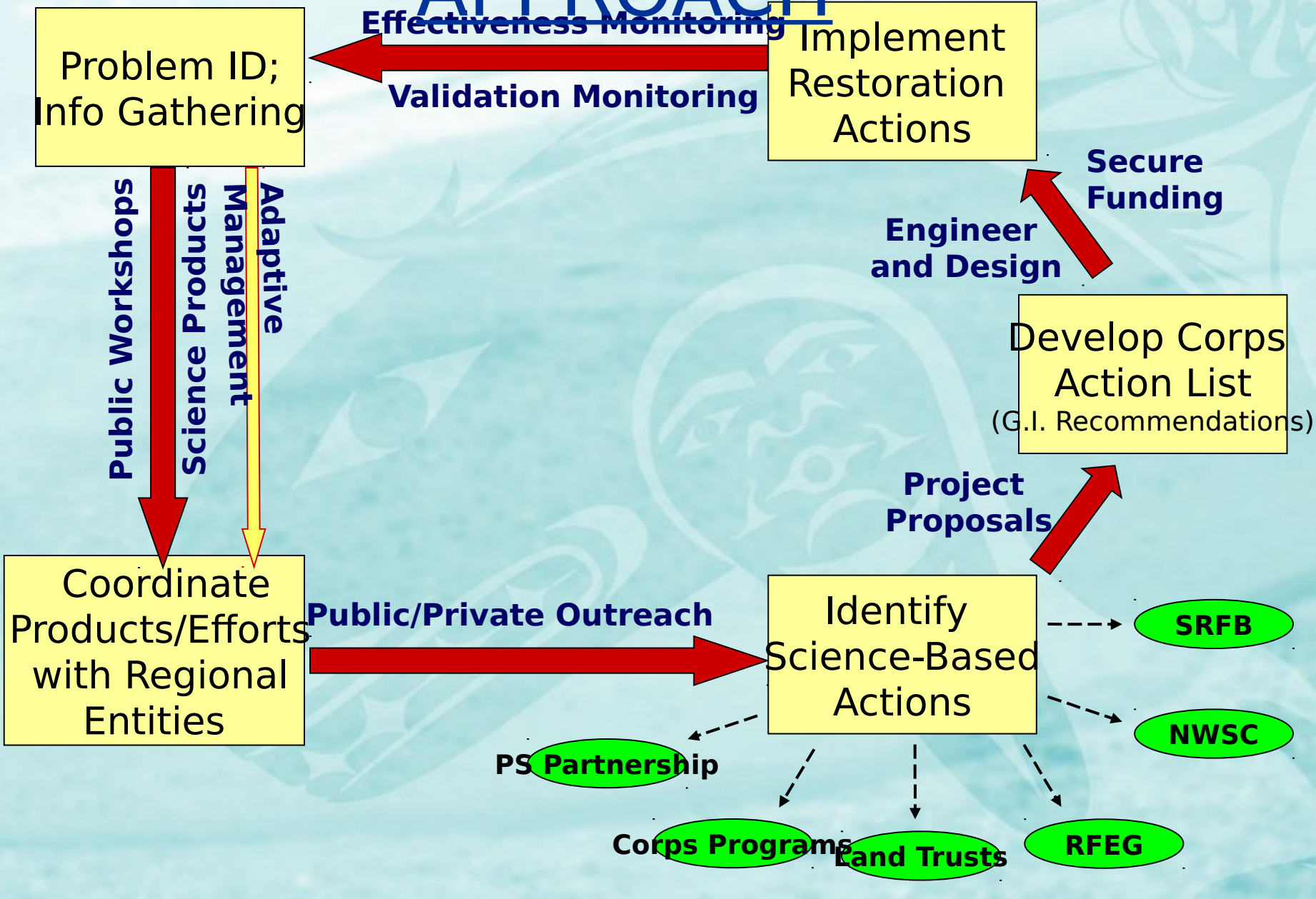
Fundamental Hypotheses

- Natural processes create structure
- Both process and structure influence function
- Functioning habitat supports biological organisms and communities
- These relationships can be tested through a conceptual model

Nearshore Partnership Organization



PSNER APPROACH



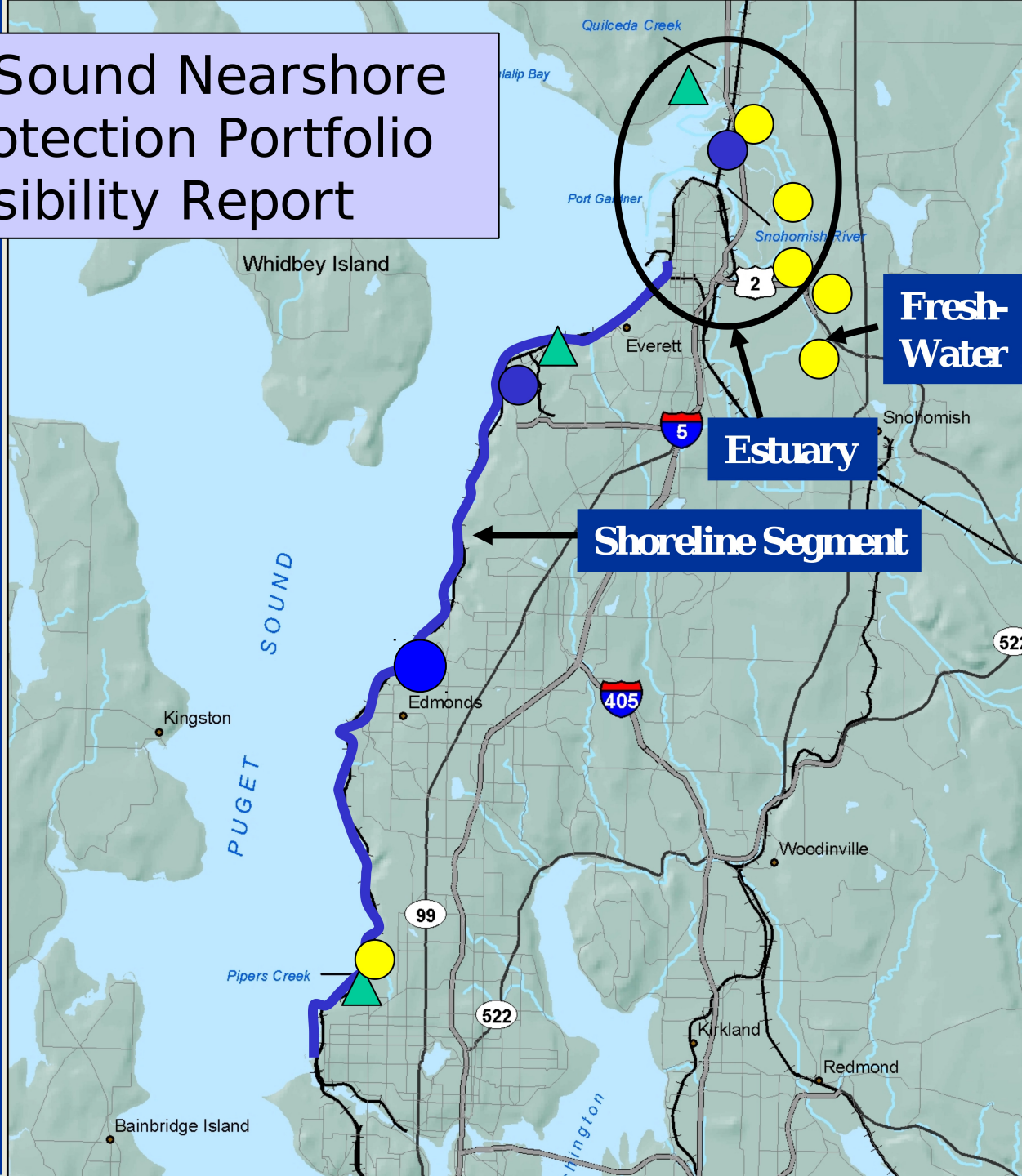
Building a Puget Sound Nearshore Restoration & Protection Portfolio And Final Feasibility Report

PSNERP "Anchor" Beach Restoration

TNC/TPL/Local Land Trust Acquisition

PSNERP Estuary Wetland Restoration

Tribal, Lead Entity, MRC Estuary Restoration/Protection



PSNER CONNECTIONS
Integration and Interaction Among Regional Programs, Entities and Initiatives.

USACE Programs

Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters
Seahurst Park
Snohomish Estuary

Continuing Authorities
Carpenter Creek 206

Regulatory
Staff awareness
Technical Products

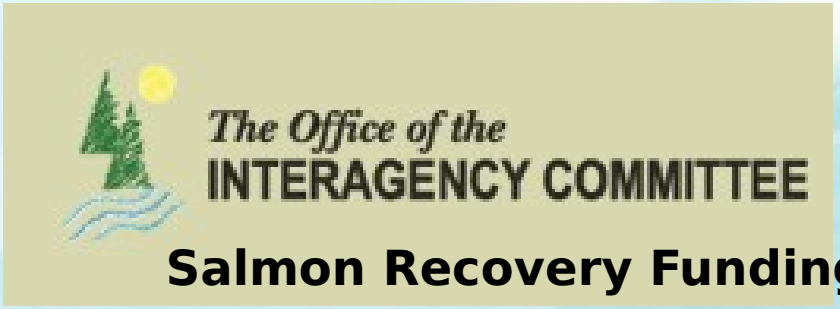
Regional Programs

Federal Restoration Efforts
NOAA Restoration Center Grants
USFWS/NOAA ESA Recovery Efforts

State Restoration Efforts
Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Puget Sound Partnership
Marine Sanctuaries

Tribal/Local Restoration Efforts
Technical Expertise
Restoration Planning
ESA Recovery Planning

Project Integration/ Collaboration
Regional Restoration Framework Example 1
Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)



SRFB

Established 24 “Lead Entities” in 1999 to develop local recovery strategies and ranking methodologies for salmon restoration. Lead Entities develop project lists to SRFB for final technical review and funding. 25-30 million dollars/yr. Over half of the Lead Entities have Puget Sound nearshore habitat as part of their recovery area.

Hood Canal Coordinating Council
Island County Public Works
King County (WRIA 8)
King County (WRIA 9)
Kitsap (East) Peninsula Lead Entity
Mason Conservation District
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery
North Olympic Peninsula LE
Pierce County
San Juan County
Skagit Watershed Council
Snohomish
Stillaguamish LE

SRFB and Corps PNSER Integration
Mutual Support for Restoration Planning and Execution

The Office of the
INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE
Salmon Recovery Funding Board

JOINT PROJECT PORFOLIO (ongoing)

DATABASE INTEGRATION (2006)

ROUTINE INTERACTION (ongoing)

STATE FUNDED SUPPORT TO SRFB (2003-2004)

DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (1999-2002)

Project Integration/ Collaboration
Regional Restoration Framework Example 2

Governor's Salmon Initiative 2006

Governor's Salmon Initiative

In 2006, Governor Gregoire launched the Puget Sound Partnership initiative. The initiative builds on the existing Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership which includes the Corps of Engineers GI. The PS Nearshore Partnership (including the Corps) have been asked to screen, rank and select 2.5 million dollars in early action projects.

The 5 "charges"

2020 AGENDA Recommend key actions to recover the Sound by 2020.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT Engage citizens, governments, communities, and others in ramping up efforts to recover the Sound.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE Recommend organizational structures and approaches to bring Puget Sound back to health and protect it.

FUNDING Review funding sources and set spending priorities to achieve the desired outcomes by 2020.

SCIENCE Recommend how scientific knowledge should be organized and applied in order to inform policies and assist in setting/meeting goals.

Washington and PSNER collaborating to establish early action restoration projects in Puget Sound.

Washington State

Request for process to Establish funding of early action nearshore projects

Final list of projects recommended for funding

Nearshore Partnership

Project screening and ranking criteria established

Potential projects evaluated and ranked.

Regional Project Proponents

Proponents develop projects for funding consideration

SUMMARY

Benefits of Regional Integration

- **Acceptability**. Integration into regional restoration efforts is vital to maintaining relevance of project outputs and the viability of the alternative plans to Fed, State, Tribal and local entities (adapted from EP 1165-2-502).

- **Improved Technical Response**. Collaborative use of technical and decision making provides for broader understanding of ecosystem needs.

- **Post Project Management**. Integrating project ID and planning enhances

SUMMARY (cont.)

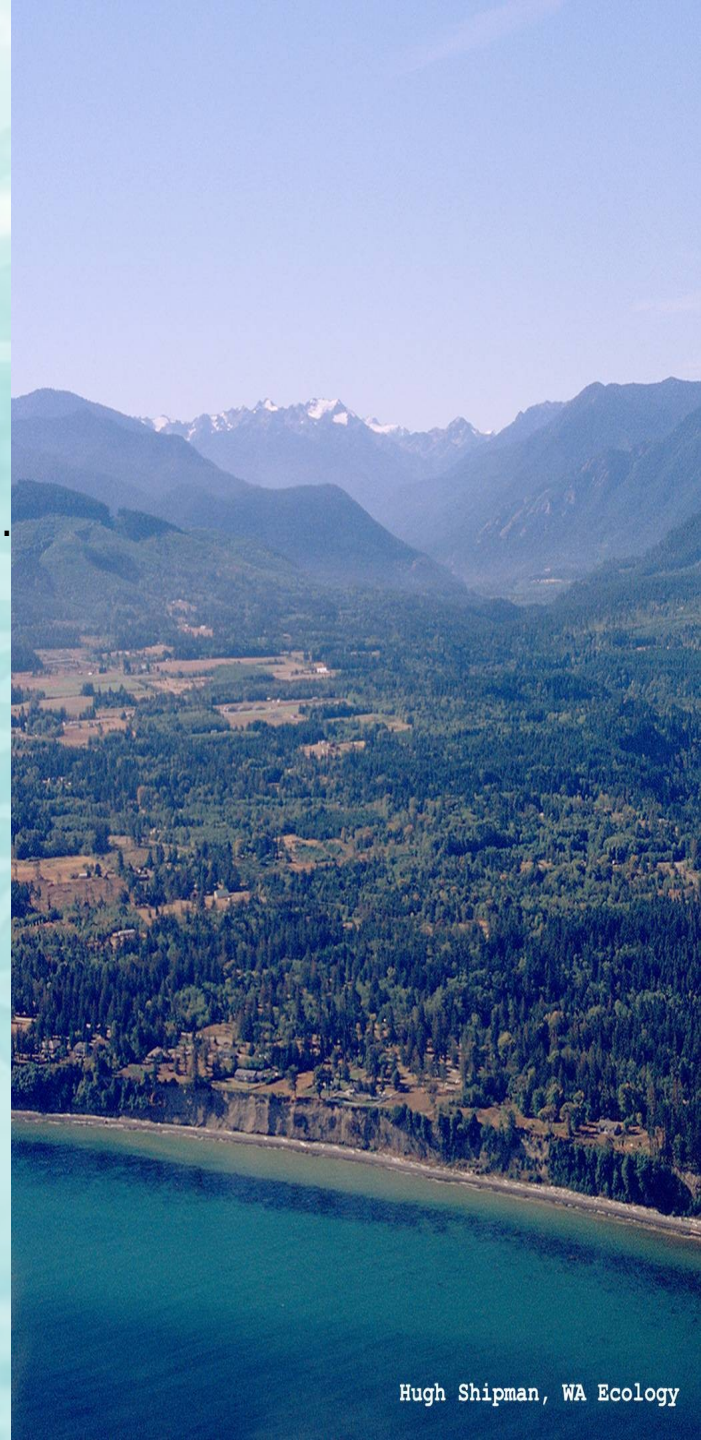
Challenges to Regional Integration

- **Project Management.** Local sponsor and Federal project managers must closely coordinate and work to ensure proper direction of PSNER project.

- **Proper Usage of Federal Funds.** Work completed as part of GI must be valuable to the federal government and support rather than duplicate local efforts.

- **Local Government Interests**. PSNER must diligently ensure federal interests are central to decision making. Federal staff must bring value to the process while retaining State decision making ability.

- **Private Interests**. The USCOE must also ensure Federal efforts respect private consultants



For More Information

Please visit our website:

www.pugetsoundnearshore.org